GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:56
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2005
SHORTAGE OF PREPAID CARDS
Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of prepaid cards for the cellone BSNL mobile service;

(b) if so, the reasons for this shortfall;

(c) the State-wise waiting list of BSNL prepaid cards in the country;

(d) whether the Government is aware of the fact that prepaid cards are sold at a higher rate by the employees of BSNL in various parts of the country; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 56 FOR 27TH JULY, 2005 REGARDING SHORTAGE OF PREPAID CARDS.

(a) & (b) No, Sir. Inspite of availability of pre-paid SIM cards in sufficient numbers, release of pre-paid cellular connections is temporarily controlled due to capacity constraints.

(c) The waiting list for the Circles/States wherever being maintained is placed at Annexure.

(d) There have been some complaints received regarding sale of SIM cards at higher rates. These complaints were examined but allegations could not be established.

(e) BSNL has taken following steps in this regard:
Ã˜ Augmenting the network aggressively to make sufficient capacities available.
Ã˜ Appointing more franchisees for easy accessibility and availability of SIM cards.
Ã˜ Authorizing STD PCO's for distribution of SIM cards.
Ã˜ Expanding the distribution outlets of SIM cards through post offices.
Ã˜ Maintaing waiting list specifically in those Circles/States from where complaints have been received.
Ã˜ Keeping strict vigil on the distribution of SIM cards.

ANNEXURE

STATE-WISE WAITING LIST AS ON 30.6.2005

Sl. No	Name of State	Waiting List
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1	Andman & Nicobar	Not Maintained
2	Andhra Pradesh	Not Maintained
3	Assam	Not Maintained

4	Bihar	163527
5	Chhattisgarh	118867
6	Gujarat	Not Maintained
7	Haryana	Not Maintained
8	Himachal Pradesh	Not Maintained
9	Jammu & Kashmir	Not Maintained
10	Jharkhand	192932
11	Karnataka	Not Maintained
12	Kerala	Not Maintained
13	Madhya Pradesh	Not Maintained
14	Maharashtra including Goa	100000
15	North East-I (Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram)	Not Maintained
16	North East-II (Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur)	Not Maintained
17	Orissa	Not Maintained
18	Punjab	Not Maintained
19	Rajasthan	Not Maintained
20	Tamil Nadu	Not Maintained
21	Uttar Pradesh	744369
22	Uttaranchal	3275
23	West Bengal including Sikkim	Not Maintained